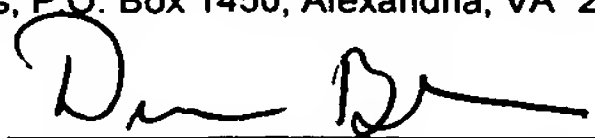


10/559951

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Shengce TAO et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

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For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR
OPTIMIZING MULTIPLEX PCR PRIMERS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry on this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.